Colchester Port Sanitary Authority.

Annual Report, 1951.

Health Offices,
Trinity Street,
Colchester,
17th. March, 1952.

INSPECTIONS.

Number of vessels inspected during year	249
Nuisances abated during year	38
Statutory Notices served	-
Informal notices served	27
Defects covered by these notices	35

Details of these defects :-

Defective floorboards	4
" bulkhead	3
" sanitary accommodation	4
" sink	1
Leaky deck seams	2
Accumulation of foul bilge water	1
Mice infestation	4
No cover to water tank	2
Dirty quarters	8
" bedding	3
" sanitary accommodation	1
" wash basin	1
Forecastle in need of decoration	1

Other conditions found aboard.

Illness (non-infectious)	1
" (Measles)	1

Other conditions found in Port Area.

Rat infestation of shipyard and other buildings adjoining port
Diesel oil discharged into creek

TABLE A.

1. Amount of shipping entering Port during year.

	No.	Tonnage	Insp. by P.S.O.	No. defective	Defects remedied	Diseases on voyage
Foreign (motor)	105	12,978	44	nil	nil	2
Coastal (motor & sail)	1067	91,725	205	27	38	nil
	1172	104,703	249	27	38	2

TABLE B.

a. Passenger traffic. Nil
b. Cargo traffic. As in the report for 1950

Water Supply. No changes in 1951.

Port Sanitary Regulations, 1933.

The nine paragraphs given in the Report for the previous year still apply.

TABLE C.

No cases of infectious disease were landed at the Port during the year.

TABLE D.

One case of Infectious Disease occurred on a German vessel during its voyage to this country. It was a boy of two years with Measles, and he was seen by Dr. E. A. Hargreaves, Deputy Port M.O. aboard at Brightlingsea.

5. Measures against Rodents.

Systematic poisoning was carried out in 4 vessels during the year.

TABLES E & F.

Numbers not known.

TABLE G.

No vessels arrived from plague infested ports.

TABLE H.

The Port Sanitary Authority is not authorised to issue De-ratisation Certificates, but can now issue Rodent Control Certificates, under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, Prevention of Damage by Pests (Application to shipping) Order, 1951.

6. Hygiene of Crews' quarters.

Classification of Nuisances listed on Page 1.

TABLE J.

Nationality of vessel	No. insp. during year.	Defects of original construction	Structural defects through wear and tear	Dirt, Vermin & other conditions prejudicial to health.
British	205	nil	14	21
Other nations	44	nil	nil	nil

7. Food Inspection.

Paras. 1-3 inclusive are repeated for the present year as in 1950.

General Remarks.

The volume of shipping using the Port has again increased during the year, and this was largely due to the additional number of sand barges which ply between Fingringhoe and London.

Now that the Port of London Authority has prohibited the dredging of sand and gravel from the River Thames, it is probable that increasing quantities of sand and gravel will be required from the area of the River Colne, and the bulk of this material will be transported by water. Negotiations are already in progress for the opening of one new pit at Brightlingsea, and arrangements are being

made for a fleet of barges to supply the London market from this pit.

More foreign vessels have also entered the port, but these vessels have generally been in excellent sanitary condition.

Some nuisance was caused, particularly to oyster merchants by diesel oil which was discharged occasionally from unknown vessels in the area of Brightlingsea Creek, while the amount of sewage discharged from houseboats and yachts does not give cause for any concern at the present.

No cases of venereal disease were reported from ships' crews during the year, and the general standard of mens' quarters regarding cleanliness was fairly satisfactory.

One case of illness reported on the Declaration of Health occurred on a Dutch boat which had arrived from Fur in Denmark. The boat proceeded up river from Brightlingsea to Colchester, and the Deputy Port Medical Officer saw the sick man, mate of the vessel, and satisfied himself that he could be allowed to proceed with the vessel which was returning that day to Holland. He had apparently been attended by a doctor for phlebitis before leaving Denmark.

Acting Port Medical Officer.